

DATE: February 5, 2021

AUTHOR: John Donlevy, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

All,

A super busy week with a variety of topics:

- The City continues to work with the Chamber of Commerce and the local business associations on a variety of topics. The Associations have almost \$250,000 in grant funds for capital improvements to support outdoor dining, rental assistance to service businesses impacted by covid, almost \$40k for promotion and \$60k for technical assistance to help get businesses online and almost, \$30k to support restaurants with food delivery offsets. For more information contact Chamber Executive Jackie Weston.
- Staff participated in goal setting with the Chamber last Saturday. Auburn has a very dedicated business group which supports key activities (Festival of Lights and 4th of July) and the advancement of businesses. It was time well spent!
- Staff also participated with the Chambers Government Affairs Subcommittee. On the meeting was Supervisor Cindy Gustafson who gave a really good overview of efforts on Covid and business support from the County. This Chamber Committee I would describe as very high value and I really look forward to collaborating with them.
- They City's internal/staff "Systems Committee" met this week and the discussion included our IT support. A key topic was broadband coming into City Hall. The direction given was for them to talk with the various providers about expanding the City Hall capacity BUT also to look into the costs of pulling fiber in support of the core area of the City. Stay tuned on this!
- GIS was a hot topic with the City's consultant reviewing the base setup for accessing parcel, street and utility data. The GIS system is starting to come together and will be an important addition to City operations.
- Mayor Matt Spokely and Placer County Manager Tod Leopold joined Chief Dave Spencer and Bat Chief Rob Zaucha on a tour of the Auburn Airport. SAC Chair Mac Taylor did a fly by to demonstrate some of the advanced tech features at the airport and Auburn Airport Association Scholarship Director Don Wolfe gave a tour of his hanger. This was an incredible tour of one of the City's key assets. Once Covid is done, we will look to get more tours set to give folks an opportunity to see the current operations and understand aspects of a very visionary Airport Master Plan. A wonderful day.
- Staff is working on many issues involving the closed Auburn Landfill. Sifting through lots of garbage and finding trash! It's a pretty difficult subject but we have good teams from the City and Recology trying to get to the bottom of the pile! Stay tuned.

Finally, for folks who do not know, I have spent the good part of the last 25 years reffing youth and competitive soccer. As a National Referee with AYSO, I have learned the value of mentoring the next generation of referees through education and encouragement. There is no greater day on a soccer field for me than to see a team of young referees from my program take the field to do a game and be successful (and sometimes challenged).



On the tour of the Auburn Airport, I had a chance to meet Don Wolfe who gave us a tour of his hanger. He introduced himself as the Scholarship Director for the Auburn Airport Association (AAA) and with a lot of pride talked about their program and mentorship of young pilots. He showed off his “trainer” airplane which he said teaches the young pilots what to do when you find yourself “upside down”. His hanger has tables and white boards which helps school the young pilots.

Wednesday Night was the AAA monthly meeting where they talk some business but the highlight is the guest speaker. On Wednesday it was Brandon Brown, a young twenty something graduate student from Cal Poly SLO studying “global politics”. More importantly, Brandon was a AAA scholarship recipient who learned to fly at the Auburn Airport and is on track to go into the military to become a fighter pilot.

Brandon’s presentation centered on the values he learned from the AAA pilots who taught and mentored him. Most importantly was “paying it forward” and encouraging other young people to become pilots. Brandon is a flight instructor at a local airport in SLO and has recorded over 600 flight hours. Being a “young guy” he recognizes his influence on the younger pilots. It was an amazing talk and recognition of what the Auburn community produces with its young people.

The AAA is an amazing group with a very diverse membership both young and old (there were 42 people on the zoom meeting). I can only imagine the pride and satisfaction of Don Wolfe and the AAA Board listening to such an impressive young man who they helped mentor into someone now educating and motivating the next generation of pilots. Brandon will go on to serve our country and to the benefit of the entire world. The investment of those scholarship funds and the mentorship will have an amazing return and it all began here in Auburn.

To learn more about the Auburn Airport Association go here: <https://aaa2.wildapricot.org/>

Super Bowl Prediction..... I believe you win with defense and I am a huge fan of Tampa Bay Defensive Coordinator Todd Bowles. Tampa has a superior set of defensive backs and a very impressive front seven. Tom Brady will get all the spotlight, but it will be the defense shutting down Travis Kelce underneath and keeping Patrick Mahomes in the pocket. The game will be close and I believe the team with the ball at the end will win. Look for Tom Brady to get Super Bowl ring #7.

Take the under and Tampa Bay wins 24-17.

Have a nice weekend.

John W. Donlevy, Jr., City Manager
City of Auburn
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 823-4211 Ext 192